Gaffs

CATALOG No. 24

N. C. Gregory
TELL CITY, IND.

J. Allaskin
Fu 9/17/15

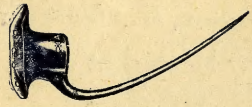
After making gaffs at Wilmington, O., for over twenty years, I am now located at

Tell City, Indiana

[THE HOME OF DERBY GAME BIRD]

This is a town of about 4,000, on the Ohio River, 90 miles west of Loiusville, Ky., and about 200 miles west of Cincinnati, Ohio. I will continue my work here, where I have a larger and better equipped shop and am prepared for getting the very highest class of work out promptly. Send all orders to

[GIVE NUMBER OF CIRCULAR WITH ORDER]



To

THE FRATERNITY

In offering this, my 24th catalogue to the fraternity, I do so with the utmost confidence in my ability to produce work that will not only please my patrons in every respect; but also prove to be the means of advancing the reputation of my Gaffs in every locality in which they are used.

In quoting prices on the individual patterns shown in this circular I have endeavored to keep within the bounds of reason. However, the prices named are fore the very highest class of work which would be no better if I charged twice as much. Special Gaffs with odd shaped flanges or sockets can be supplied; but as new dies are necessary which I would never be likely to use again, I am obliged to make prices on such orders a matter of correspondence.

I will greatly appreciate the favor if these special orders can be placed during the summer or fall, as during the busy season I am always rushed to the utmost, and cannot give such work the prompt attention that I should like.

I would also ask my patrons to satisfy themselves thoroughly as to the style of Gaff they want before ordering, for, while it is my endeavor to please every purchaser in every respect, I cannot in justice to myself make exchanges.

My gaffs are made of one solid piece of steel, no soldering or brazing, and the steel is the best procurable. Sockets on all Drops will be 7-16 long. Regulation and Half Drops will be from 7-16 to 9-16 long with 7-16 hole. Every pair will be leathered with the best leather for the purpose and ready to tie on.

I will warrant every new pair neither to bend or break in battle for one year.

My long experience in this work has brought me in touch with nearly all of the professionals, and it is highly gratifying to me to know that my work has given them entire satisfaction. When you have described your wants, I believe that I can fill your order in every detail as to set, shape, weight, etc.

Old spurs reset and tempered, polished and leathered for about $1.00, owing to the work on them; but no guarantee goes with repair work. I only warrant my own work.

Would say, that to parties wanting first-class game fowls, I can generally furnish same in limited numbers, and do not care to exchange Gaffs for either fowls or eggs.

HOW TO SEND MONEY—Send money by P. O. Money Order, Express Money Order, Registered letter or Check. Goods mailed C. O. D. only when $1.00 is advanced to insure mailing charges and trouble. But that makes an unnecessary expense to the buyer. I mail Gaffs in good boxes by Insured Parcel Post and they are rarely lost. If lost, they can easily be traced.

Write your name and address plainly. I have received orders with name signed but address omitted. In such cases I cannot be prompt.

Carefully describe what you want, give number and length and direction as to height of point and side set. Length of blade is often omitted in orders.

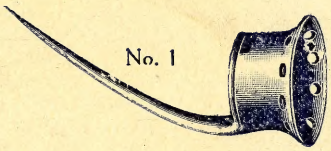
The manufacture of Steel Gaffs has resolved itself into a business that requires the sharpest kind of attention to keep abreast of the popular demand for up-to-date Gaffs—Gaffs that will win the major part of the money. Old ideas and old methods have been superseded by better ones, although there are undoubtedly Gaff makers at the present time who still resort to the alcohol flame for tempering.

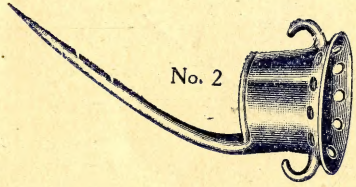
My special concave flange, the hollow of which fits perfectly to the leg of the cock has proven a most popular feature.

While there are no patented ideas or secrets about the manufacture of Steel Gaffs, the amateur cocker could very easily be led to believe, from the claims of certain egotistical people, that there really existed a particular set or other feature that was unknown to, or could not be legally copied or imitated by other makers. Such claims are usually accompanied by wild guarantees which really mean nothing and which are not made good in case of broken or bent Gaffs. In the purchase of Gaffs as with any other commodity, it is the natural desire to get the best the market affords for the least money, and especially where a man buys several pairs of Gaffs, as many of my patrons have. They can hardly feel justified in paying half as much again or double what they are worth.

I have hundreds of testimonials. If I were to print them all I could have a very large catalog. The few that I print in this one are from a good source. I invite you to write to any of them and see if they are not genuine.

A New York Regulation, a very light heel, socket ⅜ long with 7-16 hole, used mostly in 1¼ length. Price $4.00



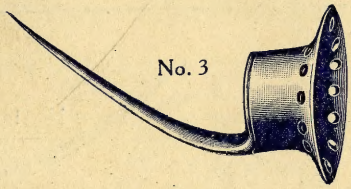


A Regulation, string pins above and below if wanted, 7-16 hole and sockets ⅜ to 9-16 long. Leathered, all complete. Price $4.00.

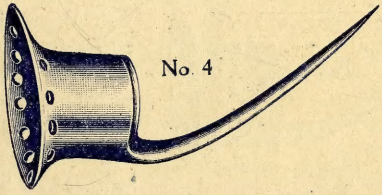
A New York Regulation

This Gaff must have a socket only ⅜ of an inch long. In some sections of the East this style is used entirely. Any of my patterns of Regulations with sockets cut to ⅜ of an inch in length are fair New York Regulations. In some sections any length sockets are allowed, and a socket 9-16 long with 7-16 hole is most popular.

If you are a beginner in the sport and need the benefit of my long experience in the business, leave it to me and I will furnish you with the kind of Gaffs that suit some of the greatest cockers in the country.



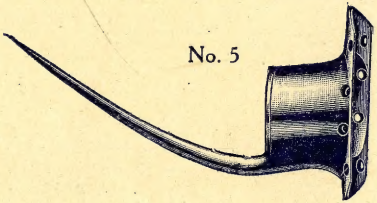
This is John Mackin's Choice, 7-16 hole, socket 7-16 long. A nice gaff of Regulation pattern. Price $5.00



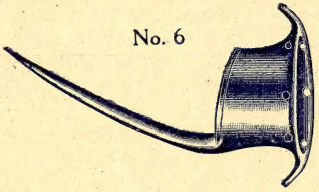
Same as No. 3, except socket is 9-16 long, made any length blade. Price $5.00

Occasionally it happens in a cockfight that one of the cocks will show considerable advantage as far as action is concerned; but in reality is cutting low or short and finally loses. In cases of this kind it is very often the tendency to criticise the cutting qualities of the Gaffs worn by the loser. This is manifestly unfair, for in all probability the cock could not have cut with any style Gaff.

When ordering be sure to state number of Gaff wanted and number of catalog.



A Regulation heel, socket 7-16 long, 7-16 hole, hollowed out to fit the leg, easy tied on and stays in place, made from 1¼ to any length desired. Leathered, all complete. Price $5.00



In some of the pits in the East they want a heel that measures exactly 1¼ inches from top of socket to point of blade and from base of blade to point, so the socket has to be made in this shape. The top of socket is 3-8 inch high and this pattern cannot be barred in any pit. Price complete $5.00.

Paris, France, May 10.

W. C. Gregory, Esq., Tell City, Ind.

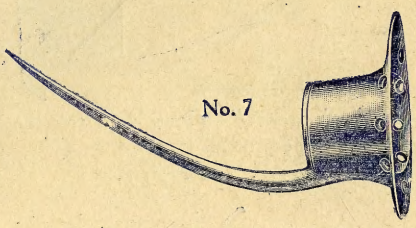
Dear Sir:—I used your Gaffs in the main which I fought here on May 7th in preference to several pairs of different makes, and I have never used better. I take great pleasure in recommending your goods to my friends.

Yours very truly,

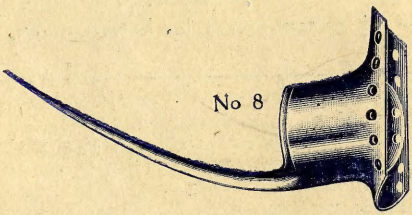
ANDREW P. O'CONNOR.

P. S.—My opponent was the veteran, Wm. Gilliver. The result was 8 to 5 in my favor.

I don't want to exchange Gaffs for cocks, or new Gaffs for old ones.

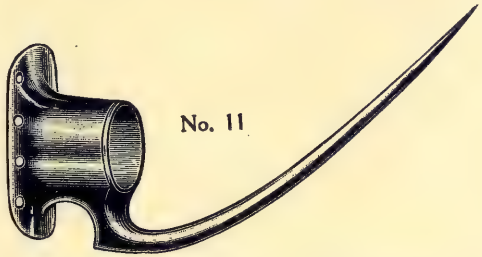


This gaff is perfectly flat on base of socket; it can be set in or out as you wish. Any length, and leathered ready to tie on.
Price $5.00.



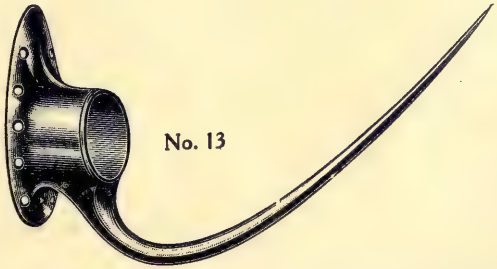
Here is my favorite pattern, socket 7-16 to 9-16 long, base hollowed out to fit the leg, easy to tie on and stays in place. You can't tie it on wrong.
Price $5 00

There are some patterns of gaffs that are very tedious to make, takes more time, and are therefore worth more money (to me.) They are no better cutters than my $5 patterns, but some people want them and I will show three cuts of some that I make.



No. 11

No. 11 is a half drop. It is similar to No. 16, but has a shorter socket. Made in the best possible manner, any length, all complete. Price $7.50



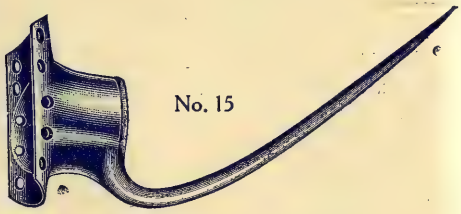
No. 13

This is the famous "Jagger." I have made them for many years, but this is the first time I ever showed them in a circular. You never saw a better half drop than this. Price $7.50

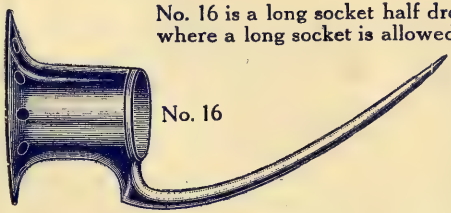
No. 14

No. 14, is a half drop, base of socket flat but well worked inside so it will fit down on leg—made so you can twist it to throw the point in or out as you please. Can be made any length and given any set. Leathered and all complete. Price $5.00

No. 15, a half drop, hollowed out to fit the leg, well made in every way. A splendid pattern, any length. $5.00

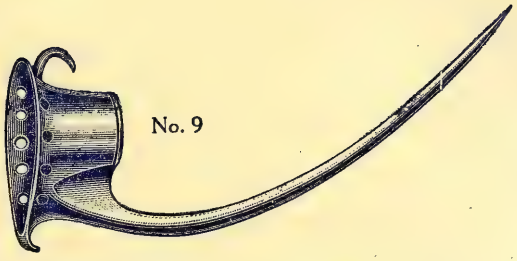


No. 15



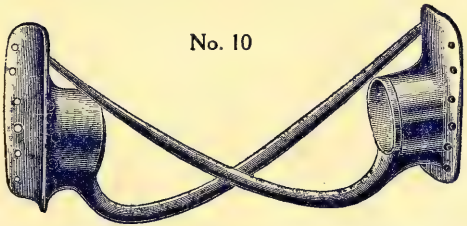
No. 16

No. 16 is a long socket half drop. In any section where a long socket is allowed, this pattern may become popular. March 3, 1914, D. H. Pierce, of Appleton, Wis., (the Red Shuffler man) tried this pattern out in a main and won every fight. This is 1½". Can make the blade any length but don't recommend it over 1½". All complete. Price $7.50



No. 9

A Split Socket half drop, and a very neat looking heel. It is somewhat similar to the Cincinnati pattern, but a better one. It has the same fault I think of being too narrow where all the pressure comes on the leg. Leathered ready to tie on. Price $6.00



No. 10

Half Drop—This pair of half drops was made for and now owned by Geo. W. Means, of Concord, N. C., the Red Cuban man. They are 2 inches long. This heel is fine to use on stags, as they could be heeled if there was no natural heel at all. This is an extra fine pattern. Leathered, complete, any length, $5.00

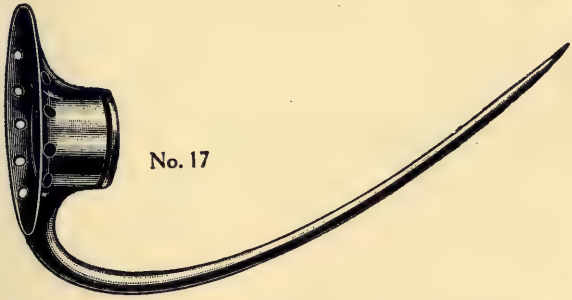
Concord, N. C., June 23, 1913.

I consider Mr. W. C. Gregory, Tell City, Ind., the best Gaff maker in America today. He knows how to set them; he uses the best steel; gives them the best temper for endurance, for I have used all his lengths from 1¼ to 3 inches, and every style except the Cincinnati.

Respectfully, GEORGE W. MEANS.

Drop Socket Gaffs

The more or less extreme patterns have long been popular with cockers preferring Long Heel fighting. In case of the Full Drops where we find the largest amount of actual blade area it is a matter of no little importance to have the weight distributed properly. You often hear the remark, "some cocks could cut with any kind of Gaff tied on them," but from the shape of the Full Drops that I have been asked to repair and mate, it is indeed difficult to figure how they could do much execution. There are numerous features about the manufacture of Drop Socket Gaffs which I have given particular attention, and I have no hesitancy in claiming for my Drops all of the requisites of an ideal Gaff.



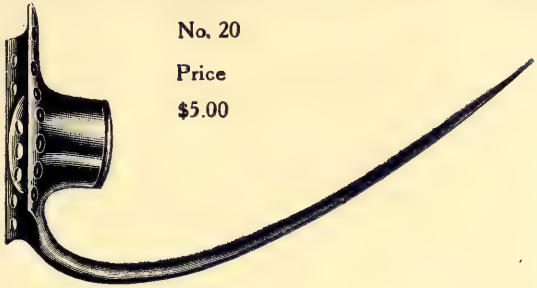
No. 17

This gaff is one of the oldest patterns, and it is a good one. It being perfectly flat on the base of socket, and can be set in or out as the heeler desires. It is well worked out inside and can be set well on the leg. Any length, all complete. Price $5.00

Two or three fights don't test a pair of Heels or a strain of cocks.

Improved Socket and Flange

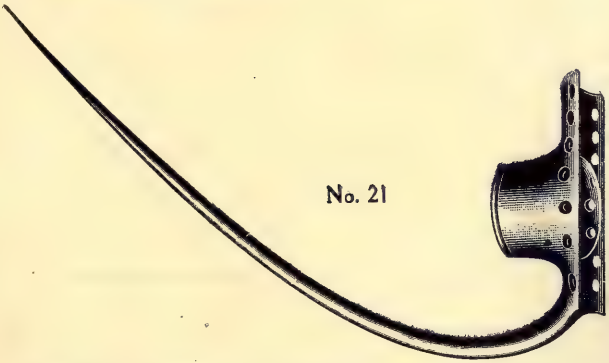
The following cuts show my Improved Socket and Flange used on Drop Sockets. It is hollowed out to fit down on the leg and has considerable surface below the spur, where all the pressure comes on the leg. This Gaff is easy to tie on and stays in place.



No. 20

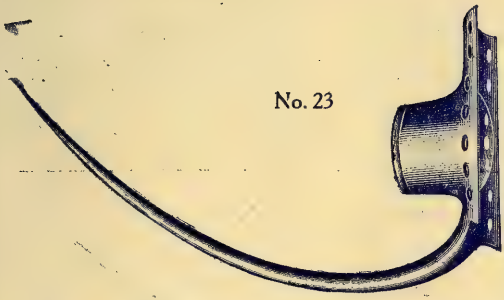
Price

$5.00



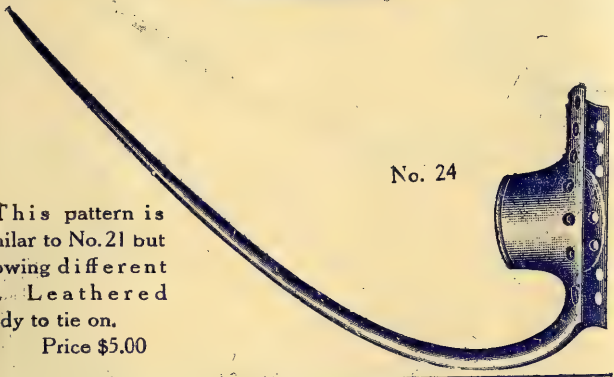
No. 21

Leathered all complete ready to tie on. Price $5.00



No. 23

Pattern No. 23 is very popular, has curved blade and is best for shuffling cocks. Complete $5.00.



No. 24

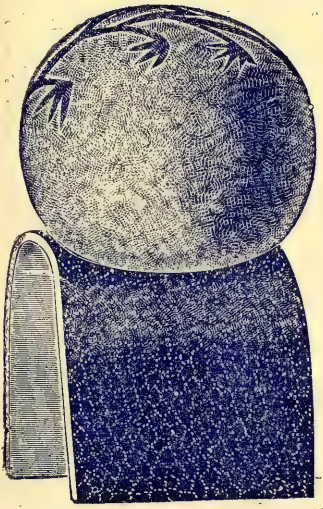
This pattern is similar to No. 21 but showing different set. Leathered ready to tie on.

Price $5.00

Downy Brook, July 28, 1910. W. C. Gregory,

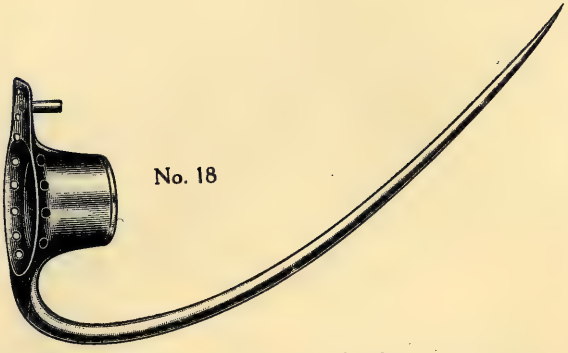
Dear Sir:—In regard to the various Gaffs which you have made to my order, will say that for finish, quality and cutting I have never seen their equal. The flange socket makes it easy for an amateur to heel as an expert, and if made on any of your standard sets it is only neecssary to put them squarely on the leg and tie. They won for me at Covington in the fastest company I could find. Yours truly, E. K. McKEOWN.

SPARRING MUFFS—The Muff is made of chamois skin and stuffed with wool. It is leathered like a gaff so it can be fastoned on firm. These Muffs are made to last and are giving satisfaction. Price in sets of four, $1.00.



Left—No. 19—Right

No. 19 was made merely to show RIGHT and LEFT and not as a correct set. I have often had gaffs sent to me asking if they were for the right or left leg to decide a bet, so I decided to show them here.



No. 18

Several years ago Col. Grist sent me his favorite pattern to make up a lot for him, to supply his trade This pair he used in all his great mains, but he wanted his set of blade on a socket like No. 20. He sold these gaffs for $10. While he was living I never made them without his permission. This is the first time they were ever shown; you cannot get the exact set from a cut but it will show the pattern, and they were good enough for Col. Grist. I have the original pair now in my shop. Finished in the best possible manner, any length. Price $7.50

Frederick, Md., Jan. 22, 1915

Mr. W. C. Gregory, Dear Sir: The gaffs you recently made for me are entirely satisfactory in every way. I consider you the best gaff maker in the country and I have used enough gaffs in my time to know good ones when I see and use them. You shall have all my future orders. Very truly, J. A. Kidwiler

Fort Gaines, Ga., June 30, 1913.

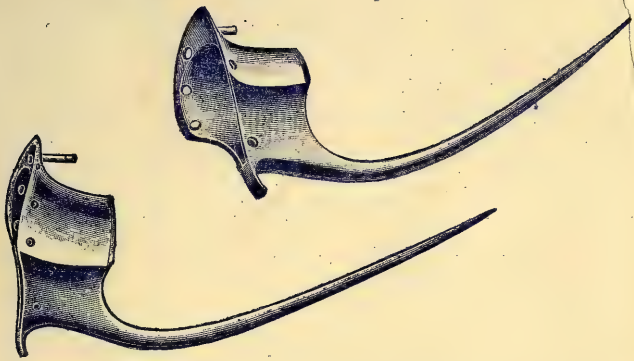
Dear Mr. Gregory:—

Your favor received. I had already attempted to write out a testimonial concerning your gaffs. I send you a hastily written draft of what I was intending to show, viz: That while you made a Gaff for beauty and finish far ahead of any I had seen, that while in a practical test (fighting) they had broke the world's record for deadly cutting; that all this was as nothing compared to what I believed you had succeeded in doing—giving your Gaffs the famous Damascus temper. The worthless Gaff might be most highly finished; it might have required shape to cut well, and this it would do until it met a certain strain which would either break it or bend it out of shape. As you know, I have seen and handled a good many of your Gaffs and sold my customers quite a lot of them in the past ten years and you have never had a complaint from me, nor have I ever had one from any of my customers.

I know of men who make fine finished Gaffs and some of them well shaped; some of these Gaffs after having proven good had broken at an important time. I will write you off something I hope will cover this important item (temper) and short enough for you to use. The page I send with this is too long. I simply want to say that your Gaffs are unrivaled cutters, perfect workmanship in make and finish, and if the art of tempering has been a lost art, it is in your possession.

Sincerely your friend,

F. E. GRIST.



No. 28—Cincinnati Pattern

Two views of the same Gaff in different positions.

I wanted to quit making this pattern and did not show it in my last circular; but I got so many calls for it that I concluded to offer it in what I consider an improved form, hollowed out to fit the leg. Can be tied on more firmly than the old style. This pattern is used in lengths from 1½ inches to 2½ inches. Can give it any set desired. Price complete, ready to tie on, $5.00.

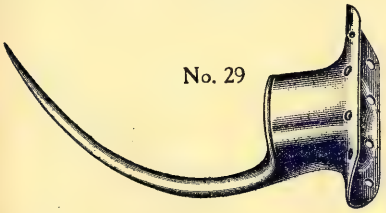
Milan, Pa., April 6, 1910.

W. C. Gregory.

Dear Sir:—In 1908 I bought two pair of 1¼ Gaffs of you as you advised—One straight pair for sparring cocks, one curved pair for shufflers, and have tried them both on all kinds of fighters and I want to say that you have the finest tempered, finest finished and finest cutting gaffs I ever saw. I am an amateur heeler and never tied on a Gaff until I tried a Gregory, and the way they break legs, necks and backs is a caution. I have won 10 out of 16 fights—Not so bad for a new beginner. I wish you success, Very truly yours, R. B. EDMISTON.

Heels with Curved Blades

During the last few years I have been making a number of Gaffs with blades curved like the following four cuts. They have given great satisfaction when used on shuffling fowls. Here is what John Mackin says in Derby Game Bird: "In regard to heeling, I will say I have followed the game for thirty years and never saw better cutting than the cocks did that were shown by Brown & McWhorter in their main. They used a very peculiar set Gaff made by W. C. Gregory. They are almost a half circle, which gives them a bow bend, and it seems they were in every time the cock struck at his opponent, whether the opponent was up or down." Wherever I send these Gaffs, I get orders for more. However, I would not recommend them for sparring cocks. I believe every cocker, to be successful, should have two pairs of each style and length—One pair with curved blades for shufflers and a pair with straighter blades for sparring cocks.

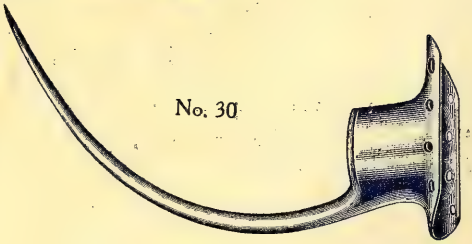


No. 29

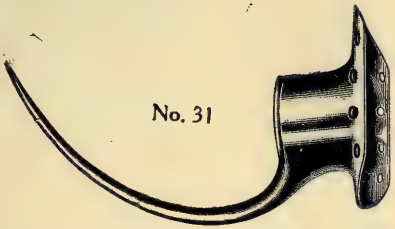
1 ½ Regulation or any other length desired. In some of the strict sections of the east this pattern would not be considered a fair heel. Price $5.00

Regulation style, but shown in 2 inch length with curved blade.

Price 5.00

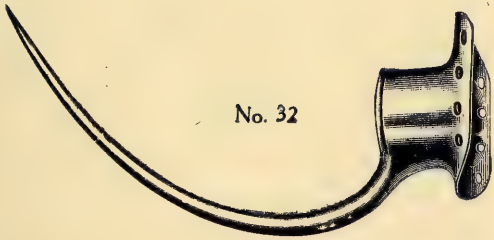


No. 30



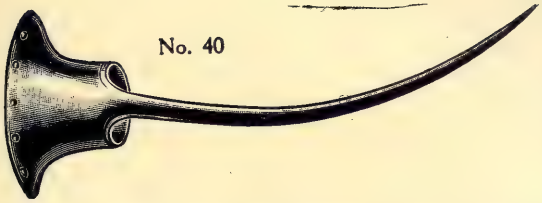
No. 31

Half Drop, 1½ inch curved blade. Price $5.00



No. 32

A half drop, hollowed out on base of flange, well worked out inside so it will set firm on the leg, socket about 7-16 of an inch long, any length blade. Price $5.00



No. 40

Now here is what I call a freak pattern. It was designed and made by Mr. Paul Barnhorn, of Covington, Ky. He has used this pattern for about 30 years and it is a remarkable fact that he has never lost a main. Was it owing to the gaffs? I think it's owing to his ability in selecting and conditioning cocks. Now you can form your own opinion and if you want them, I can furnish them all complete, any length. Price $7.50

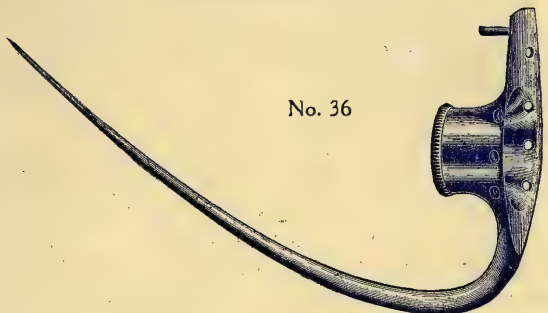
Covington, Ky., January 1, 1908.

To Whom It May Concern:—

This is to ecrtify that I have sold to W. C. Gregory, my pattern of Gaffs and the privilege to supply it to cockers. Would recommend any one wanting this special set to him, as he is the only man in the U. S. that has it. I have used this special set for 26 years, defeating some of the best cockers, such as Flock, 10 out of 15; Conroy, 7 out of 13; Fleischman, 7 out of 13; Respess, 10 out of 13; Weisenberger & Hayes, 8 out of 15.

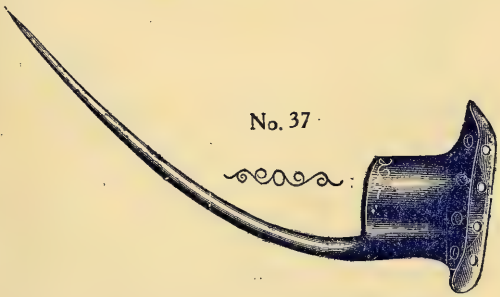
PAUL BORNHORN.

Ornamental Gaffs



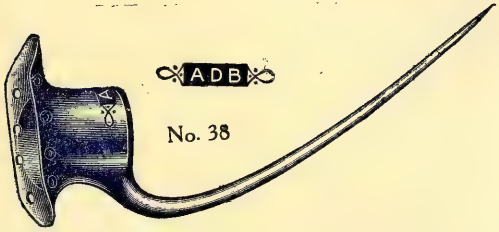
No. 36

No. 36 is a drop socket, the flange or base is slightly hollowed out, the hole is well worked out so it will fit down on the leg. Made in any length or set desired. Price $5.00. Milled edge, initials or scroll, 50c extra.



No. 37

No. 37 is a Regulation pattern, showing a scroll finish. Instead of the "O" in the center I can put any initial letter desired. The blade is set right for a sparring cock. Made any length or set. Price plain $5.00. With scroll and initial letter $5.50.



A half drop, showing the way I put on the initials. This is not easily put on a very short socket. This is a very popular pattern in lengths of 1½ and 2¼ inches. Price $5.00; with initials $5 50.

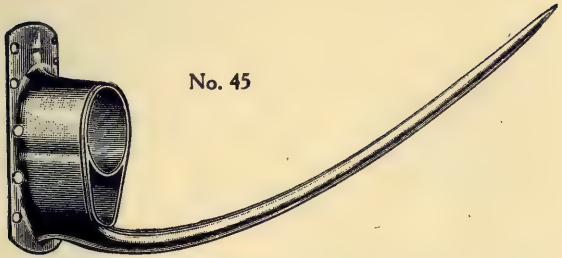
W. Fitchburg, Mass., March 17, 1910.

W. C. Gregory.

Dear Sir:—I received the Gaffs all right. I know you will be pleased to be through with my order, as I am always so particular and hard to please. I do not believe there is another man in the world that could please me making Gaffs. I have been fighting cocks for sixteen years and have had Gaffs from several makers and I will truly say that you are the first man to please me. This is the third pair of Gaffs you have made for me in four years and none have bent or broken. I have tested one pair very hard and they stood it, and they certainly can knock something down if there is not a sharp lookout, or else the bird it too stiff to walk. I would not take $15 for the pair just received. I will let you make all my future Gaffs to your own style, as the last pair are so pretty and up-to-date in every way.

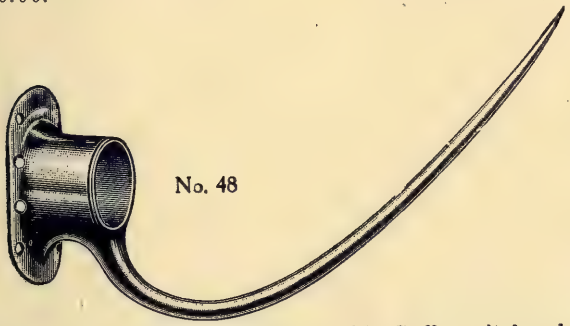
Very truly,

MICHAEL J. MORIARTY.



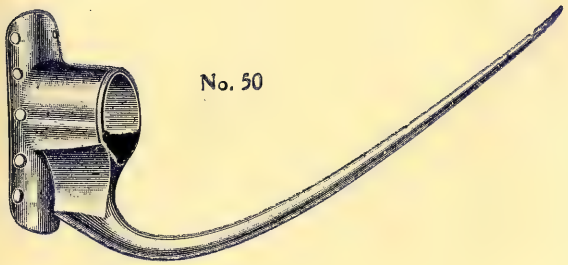
No. 45

This Gaff was designed I think by Mr. Helwig. He called it his I. X. L. Gaff. It is very tedious to make and is worth all I ask for it. It may not be worth it to you, but it takes time to make it. Price all leathered complete, $10.00.



No. 48

No. 48 is a "Texas Twister." This Gaff can't be shown good in a cut of this kind. The blade comes out at one side of the center of bottom of socket and they have to be forged rights and lefts, takes two dies and are about as awkward a looking heel as I ever saw. They start out at base of blade and are twisted in and then out again. My pricefor this style, made right in every way, is $10.



No. 50

No. 50 is another pattern that is hard to make, that is it takes a lot of time. While it is a good pattern, I hardly think it pays the buyer to put $10 in a pair of heels when he can get just as good for half the money. This is similar to the old Cincinnati gaff, only it has a better flange and fits down on the leg better and has more bearing on the leg at base of blade. Price, any length, complete, $10 a pair.

The above pattern is not a new idea. Over 20 years ago Mr. T. M. Bryan, of Cannelton, Ind., sent me this pattern made of wood. I thought at the time it was a remarkable job of whittling, he even had the side set made in it. About ten years ago a man in Chicago sent me drawings of this idea and wanted me to make it. There is nothing new in the business. doubt whether you could think of a pattern that hasn't at some time been tried out.

Though for many years I have fought a few cocks and have bred game chickens every year for 25 years or more. A cocker is one who follows the business during the season. I know of men, along about Thanksgiving, who quit their other work and make a business of fighting cocks. Such men are cockers. A man may be a successful cocker, or he may be very unsuccessful. To attend a few hacks or mains and to fight a few cocks each season don't make a man a cocker.

A breeder, in the true sense of the word is one who can develop or improve a strain; no one can do that who crosses out every year or so. To experiment is interesting and you will notice many so called breeders are experimenting all the time. I have made many crosses that were good, but didn't have the patience of the real breeder to keep and improve them. I have a gray cross now that is extra fine, not pretty to look at, but are sure cutting leg fighters. Will I keep them? I suppose not, may cross out "to make them better," and lose them. I don't try to make raising game fowls a paying business. I don't have the time during the winter and spring, when they require the most attention, to care for many. I always raise a few "just for company." I like to watch them grow and develop. It pays to buy cocks of the breeder instead of the experimenter.

Mr. W. C. Gregory.

Dear Friend:—The heels arrived a few days ago and I am certainly very much pleased with the beautiful job that you did for me. I have seen heels made by most of the makers, including some of the old silver spurs that some people made so much over, but I have never seen a pair that would stand comparison with these you have sent me. They suit me in every way.

Yours sincerely,
WM. J. OXLEY,
459 N. 5th St., Ottumwa, Iowa.
Sept. 5, 1914.

CUTTING GAFFS.

I don't claim to make better cutting Gaffs than other gaff makers, that would be foolish. Such claims are generally from inexperience or from ignorance. When I was young in the business, and some one would report great success with heels I had made for them, I would then think I had surely found the right set and would make others the same, and would find that they didn't always do so well in other hands. Since that time I have learned that it is cutting cocks that you want. If you see some one winning a great majority of battles, get some of the cocks and don't bother about the heels. If you find some one that has the great cutting heels, ask him why he ever loses a fight, and every time he will tell you that the cock was no good. It is the only way out of it. The only argument. Suppose some gaff maker could make gaffs that would always win the great majority, were much superior to any other, how long do you think it would be until every other gaff man in the country would have the set? All the great cockers differ on the gaff question, they are successful with the kind they have been winning with and don't change, and they are successful because they know how to select, breed and condition cocks, that is the secret and there is no doubt of it.

I would advise the beginner to avoid all extremes, don't have them too light nor too heavy, heavy enough to break the bones without springing too much, a very light gaff won't do that so well. Here is what I would call a sensibly set gaff in a 2¼ full drop—have an even curve blade, point to be about ¼ inch above top of socket and to have about ¼ inch side set. There's nothing freaky about that, and if you can't win your share with such a set gaff, you had better get another strain of cocks.

My Help

For years I have had to have help. No one man on earth could do all of my work. The work of my helper consists of sweeping out, carrying coal, building fires, feeding chickens, going up town and to do the hundred and one little jobs about the place. Then when I forge, he uses the sledge. A helper in forging in necessary. At the bench he helps "dig", or work out the socket inside. After a while, as he learns, he can file some on the outside of the socket. I do all the setting and tempering and file out all the blades. And I have always done this. My helper helps to polish the gaffs. In fact, I let him do what he can do right. No man has ever, in any case, filled orders for me.

MY PRICES.

I have aimed to put my prices for gaffs just as low as I can afford to make them, and also low enough so any cocker can afford to buy, who wants strictly high grade Gaffs. I know my prices are not too high, for I work most all the time and am still as "poor as a church mouse." True, I have a little home, partly paid for, but I didn't get it all making Gaffs. I am willing to compare my work with any at any price and my Gaffs would not be any better if I charged twice as much. The grade of work I turn out cannot be made at a less price at a profit. I have probably the best equipped shop for the work that there is anywhere. Have every thing I need to work with, have electric power, drills, lathe, emery wheels and polishers. These machines help me do work faster and better.

Helwig's Set Boards

For several years before Mr. Helwig's death he kept the set of each pair of gaffs he made so he could make others like them without the original pair being sent to him. There is no doubt that he was the greatest gaff maker that ever lived. He didn't make the extravagant claims that some inexperienced men do. He was a genial, modest gentleman, and a fine mechanic. After his death I bought of his son, W. L. Helwig, all of his setboards and claim that I am the only one that has the genuine Helwig sets. These setboards give the exact drop, height of point, curve of blade and side-set plainly marked in figures. In the last twenty years I have probably seen five times as many Helwig gaffs as any other one man.

Pittsburgh, Pa., January 12, 1914.

Mr. W. C. Gregory.

Dear Sir:—Yours of the 8th received and in reply will say that you got all of my father's setboards. Anyone else claiming them tells what is not true. You are welcome to use my name to deny any claims by others.

Yours truly, W. L. HELWIG.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that I have personally examined the Helwig setboards in the possession of W. C. Gregory of this city and find them all he claims for them. We have dozens of letters from Mr. Helwig in our possession, as our business relations with him were carried through a great number of years. I can clearly recognize his handwriting. Moreover, I have recognized some of the special gaff patterns he made for us years ago. Mr. Gregory by the use of these setboards can duplicate any gaff Mr. Helwig ever made. I might add too that he has the most perfect little machine shop I was ever in, and his method of tempering enables him to turn out gaffs that will stand every strain that it would be possible to make them stand.

U. B. CUMMINGS, Editor, Derby Game Bird.

Barnhorn's Method of Conditioning

Mr. Paul Bornhorn of Covington, Ky., is one of the best cockers I know of. He has followed the game now for about thirty years and has had remarkably good success. He has met such eminent cockers as Flock, Weisenberger, Respess, Dr. Snyder and others, and it is a remarkable fact that he has never yet lost a main. Why is this? I think it is owing to his good judgment in select-cocks and his method of conditioning. I have his method written plainly by himself in sheet form. This method goes with every order for gaffs.

Getting Fat Cocks in Good Condition

A great many have trouble getting fat cocks in good condition to fight. Some months ago the "Feathered Warrior" printed an article on this subject that I thought so well of that I had it printed in sheet form to offer as a premium to go with every pair of gaffs. The Bornhorn method of feeding, or this article on how to condition fat cocks are either worth the price of a pair of gaffs to anyone who fights cocks. A pair of each goes with every pair of gaffs ordered.

The cuts used in this little circular were made from gaffs that I made myself, except No. 18, which was made from a pair that Mr. Grist sent me, and I still have them. They show my own work.

In conclusion I want to say that I have a friendly feeling towards other gaff makers. While there will always be competition and a business rivalry, there is not much evidence of that little, puny-minded jealousy that I have noticed in the past. There is plenty of room for all.

Fort Gaines, Georgia, June 30, 1903.

Mr. W. C. Gregory, Wilmington, Ohio.

My Dear Sir:—Perhaps I have tested your Gaffs as long as any customer you have, and I can still say what I wrote to you many years ago—after testing the first you sent me, "that I had never seen better cutters!"

In having you duplicate, my old favorite patterns for my customers, and in comparing a dozen blades at once, it was easy to see that your skill was of extraordinary type, for you had not only made perfect duplicates of the originals, but had duplicated by the dozen.

I have Gaffs of your make of such fine finish, such exquisite workmanship as to excite inquiry from men who have handled Gaffs all their lives, as to the maker.

I do not hesitate in showing, to say, "I think I can show you the finest workmanship on Gaffs you have ever seen." Not one of the hundreds who have examined, have admitted that they had ever seen as fine.

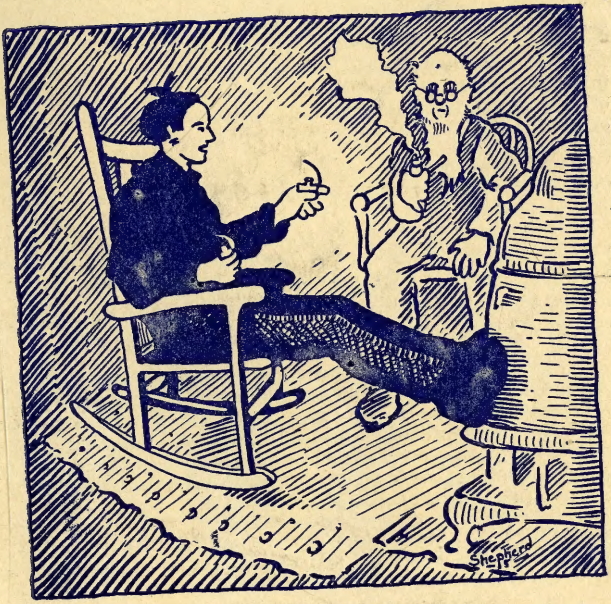
It is not on your workmanship that I would compliment you for that is of small value compared to the other qualities your Gaffs possess.

Very few people know the importance of a tempered Gaff blade, often large sums of money depend upon the strain that a blade can withstand. For years I believed this perfect tempering a lost art, and the few Gaffs that would not bend or break, an accident, but having thoroughly tested so many of yours through my customers, and in my own private tests, I am convinced that you possess this art, for I have never seen a pair break under any strain, nor had a single complaint.

As to their cutting it must be admitted that Gaffs that could win three Mains one after the other, two of these without a single loss, every fight heeled by the same man must have proper cutting shape.

I shipped the Cocks and the Gaffs that did this work, and will cheerfully give date and name of party who made this record.

F. E. GRIST.



"Dad, if this here gaff had a 64th of an inch more side set it would be a cutter."